GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2690
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NATIONAL SCIENCE POLICY
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalised the National Science Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main objectives of the said policy?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (c): The Government of India has announced a new Science and Technology Policy in 2003 (STP-2003) which supplements the Scientific Policy Resolution of 1958 (SPR-1958) and Technology Policy Statement of 1983 (TPS-1983). The main objectives of STP-2003 are â€"

To ensure that the message of science reaches every citizen of India, man and woman, young and old, so that we advance scientific temper, emerge as a progressive and enlightened society.

To ensure food, agricultural, nutritional, environmental, water, health and energy security of the people on a sustainable basis.

To mount a direct and sustained effort on the alleviation of poverty, enhancing livelihood security, removal of hunger and malnutrition, reduction of drudgery and regional imbalances, both rural and urban, and generation of employment, by using scientific and technological capabilities along with our traditional knowledge pool.

To vigorously foster scientific research in universities and other academic, scientific and engineering institutions; and attract the brightest young persons to careers in science and technology.

To promote the empowerment of women in all science and technology activities and ensure their full and equal participation.

To provide necessary autonomy and freedom of functioning for all academic and R&D institutions.

To use the full potential of modern science and technology to protect, preserve, evaluate, update, add value to, and utilize the extensive knowledge acquired over the long civilizational experience of India.

To accomplish national strategic and security-related objectives, by using the latest advances in science and technology.

To encourage research and innovation in areas of relevance for the economy and society, particularly by promoting close and productive interaction between private and public institutions in science and technology.

To substantially strengthen enabling mechanisms that relate to technology development, evaluation, absorption and upgradation from concept to utilization.

To establish an Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) regime which maximises the incentives for the generation and protection of intellectual property by all types of inventors.

To encourage research and application for forecasting, prevention and mitigation of natural hazards, particularly, floods, cyclones, earthquakes, drought and landslides.

To promote international science and technology cooperation towards achieving the goals of national development and security, and make it a key element of our international relations.

To integrate scientific knowledge with insights from other disciplines, and ensure fullest involvement of scientists and technologists in national governance so that the spirit and methods of scientific enquiry permeate deeply into all areas of public policy making.